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Kate Pew Wolters Grand Rapids Success for kids who become involved in the juvenile justice system may depend on their access to special education and mental health services. Michigan Protection and Advocacy Service (MPAS), the state nonprofit agency that advocates for persons with disabilities, can provide free training for professionals involved in the juvenile court system. Attorneys with MPAS have a wealth of experience in advocating for kids to access special education services by participating in individualized education plan meetings and due process hearings. MPAS staff also frequently represent children who are seeking to receive mental health services and services for persons with developmental disabilities through community mental health organizations. Through these trainings, MPAS staff can provide juvenile court professionals with information that can be passed on to parents and children who are having difficulty in accessing these services. We can also explain what our agency can offer to these families so that court-related professionals can make referrals to MPAS for children to receive direct representation. Special education advocacy manuals and materials regarding accessing Community Mental Health (CMH) services will be available at no charge. A training session can be arranged for a convenient date and time at the courthouse or another location in your area. Anyone wishing to arrange for a training should contact Stacy Hickox at 517-487-1755 or shickox@mpas.org.